AFCARS ASSESSMENT REVIEW IMPROVEMENT PLAN –
GENERAL REQUIREMENTS
State: Iowa
Report Period Under Review: April 1, 2003 – September 30, 2003 (2003B)

REQUIREMENT	RATING FACTOR	TASK	DATE COMPLETED	COMMENTS
POPULATION REQUIREMENTS – Foster care [The State] Must include all children in foster care for whom the agency has responsibility for placement, care, or supervision (45 CFR 1355.40(a)(2)). • All children who are required to be provided the protection of section 422(b)(10) of the Social Security Act (the Act) (Appendix A – SECTION II).	2			
The State excludes children placed with relatives from the reporting population and considers them discharged, even though the State has responsibility for care, placement or supervision. *Post site-visit analysis: On July 1, 2004 the State implemented a new screen (out of home placement, OUTD) to capture relative placements.*		ACF reviewed and commented on draft changes for including children placed with relatives. The State is to submit revised program code for the selection and extraction of these cases. Implement training and data quality oversight to ensure workers accurately enter this information into the system. Resubmit 2003B data to ACF. ACF will also evaluate the most recent report period data.		
The State includes in its foster care population those children placed by a private adoption agency in which the child qualifies as "special needs." State		Modify the system (screens and program code) to not include these children in the foster care reporting population.		

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law requires a six-month period of time prior to the finalization. During this time the agency pays a subsidy to the family. The agency should not include these children in the foster care file since it does not have care and placement responsibility of these children.		Implement training and data quality oversight to ensure workers accurately enter this information into the system.		

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TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS State extracts all records based on the transaction date of discharge (ACYF-PI-CB-95-09, Reissued May 23, 1995).	3			
The State uses the service type and removal reason to extract the file. *Post site-visit analysis: State added a new condition in the program code to check for the transaction dates in order to extract the foster care population. The new statements are in paragraph 3300-VALID-SVC-DATES.*		Resubmit 2003B data to ACF. ACF will also evaluate the most recent report period data.		